

520.39649CX3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): MASUDA, et al
Serial No.: (not yet assigned)
Filed: March 29, 2004
For: PLASMA PROCESSING SYSTEM AND A SAMPLE
PROCESSING METHOD

REAFFIRMATION OF CLAIM FOR PRIORITY

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

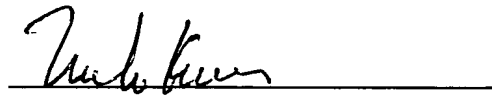
March 29, 2004

Sir:

Under the provisions of 35 USC §119 and 37 CFR §1.55, Applicants hereby claim the right of priority based on Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-048933, filed in Japan on February 21, 2000.

The certified copy of the above-referred to Japanese Patent Application was filed on February 21, 2001 in prior application Serial No. 09/788,463, filed February 21, 2001.

Respectfully submitted,



Melvin Kraus
Registration No. 22,466
ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

MK/cee
(703) 312-6600